

Amendments to the Claims:

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-68 (Cancelled)

69. (New) A method for reducing tissue damage associated with an ophthalmic procedure in a subject, comprising administering an antisense compound to the eye of said subject in conjunction with said procedure in an amount sufficient to modulate the expression of a connexin protein in the eye or in cells associated with the eye of said subject.

70. (New) A method for tissue engineering in association with an ophthalmic procedure, comprising administering an antisense compound to the eye of a subject in an amount sufficient to modulate the expression of a connexin protein in the eye or in cells associated with the eye of said subject and modulate the proliferation, migration, or differentiation of cells in the eye or on cells associated with the eye of said subject.

71. (New) A method of promoting the accumulation of epithelial cells in the eye or in a tissue associated with the eye of a subject comprising administering an antisense compound to the eye of a subject in an amount sufficient to modulate the expression of a connexin protein in the eye or in cells associated with the eye of said subject.

72. (New) A method of modulating hypercellularity in the eye or in a tissue associated with the eye of a subject comprising administering an antisense compound to the eye of a subject in an amount sufficient to modulate the expression of a connexin protein in the eye or in cells associated with the eye of said subject.

73. (New) A method of treating an injury to the central nervous system, the method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an antisense compound to a site

proximal to a preexisting wound of the central nervous system in association with a surgical procedure performed on a subject to treat said injury to the central nervous system, wherein said antisense compound is targeted to at least about 8 nucleobases of a nucleic acid molecule encoding a connexin having a nucleobase sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:12-31.

74. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein said injury to the central nervous system is a spinal cord injury.

75. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein said antisense compound is administered to a subject at least 24 hours after a physical trauma to the spinal cord.

76. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein said antisense compound is administered in conjunction with a procedure to graft nerve tissue into a spinal cord injury region of a subject.

77. (New) A method of modulation of gap-junction-associated protein expression for wound healing in a subject comprising administering an antisense compound to said subject in an amount sufficient to modulate expression of a connexin protein.

78. (New) A method according to claim 77 wherein said antisense compound is administered for a surgically related wound healing or for tissue remodeling applications.

79. (New) A method according to claim 78 wherein said antisense compound is administered in connection with an ophthalmic procedure.

80. (New) A method according to any of claims 69 to 72 or 77 said antisense compound is administered in an amount effective to decrease scar formation, reduce inflammation and/or promote wound healing.

81. (New) A method according to any of claims 69 to 72 or 77 wherein said connexin is connexin 43.

82. (New) A method according to claim 70 wherein said antisense compound is targeted to connexin 43.

83. (New) A method according to claim 82 wherein said antisense compound is administered in an amount effective to regulate epithelial based cell division and growth.

84. (New) A method according to claim 70 wherein said antisense compound is targeted to connexin 31.1.

85. (New) A method according to claim 84 wherein said antisense compound is administered in an amount effective to regulate outer layer keratinization.

86. (New) A method according to claims 69 or 70 wherein the ophthalmic procedure is an ophthalmic surgery.

87. (New) A method of claim 86 wherein said antisense compound is administered before said surgery is performed.

88. (New) A method of claim 86 wherein said antisense compound is administered during said surgery.

89. (New) A method of claim 86 wherein said antisense compound is administered after said surgery is performed.

90. (New) A method of claim 86 that is performed in association with an excimer laser photorefractive keratectomy procedure in said subject.

91. (New) A method of claim 86 wherein the ophthalmic surgery is cataract extraction.

92. (New) A method of claim 86 wherein the ophthalmic surgery is a corneal transplant.

93. (New) A method of claim 86 wherein the ophthalmic surgery is surgery to correct refraction.

94. (New) A method of claim 86 wherein the ophthalmic surgery is surgery to correct refraction is radial keratotomy.

95. (New) A method of claim 86 that promotes healing or prevents tissue damage in cells associated with the cornea of the subject.

96. (New) A method of claim 86 wherein the ophthalmic surgery is glaucoma filtration surgery.

97. (New) A method of claim 86 wherein the ophthalmic surgery is keratoplasty.

98. (New) A method according to any one of claims 69 to 72 and 77 wherein the antisense compound is targeted to connexin 43.

99. (New) A method according to claim 98 wherein the antisense compound comprises a nucleobase sequence selected from SEQ.ID.NOS: 1-3.

100. (New) The method of claim 69 to 72 and 77 wherein said antisense compound comprises a nucleobase sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:1-11.

101. (New) The method of any one of claims 69 to 72 and 77 wherein said antisense compound compound is an antisense oligonucleotide of between 15 and 35 nucleobases in length.